

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGIONS 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

### JUL 1 7 2017

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Mr. Joseph Wildcat, Sr., President Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa 418 Little Pines Road Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin 54538

RE: Invitation to Teleconference on the Haskell Lake Petroleum Contamination /Tower Standard Site

#### Dear President Wildcat:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received notice of the Special Tribal Council action taken on July 13, 2017, that until further notice the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (LDF) tribal staff, including the technical level and program manager/director level, will not be participating in technical and managerial discussions of the Haskell Lake Petroleum Contamination Site (Site) with EPA Region 5. As you are aware, for the past two years EPA has been coordinating preparations for Site cleanup with LDF and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Project coordination work has been distinct from formal government-to-government consultation under Executive Order 13175.

As time is short to complete the important work at Haskell Lake, we consider it essential to arrange a managers' teleconference with LDF and WDNR. We hope to talk with all parties by July 21, 2017 to review issues and options and reach agreement on a path forward to timely completion of the project. A draft agenda with proposed dates and times is attached. If these dates and times do not coincide with your schedule, kindly let us know what dates and times you are available for the teleconference. We propose that USEPA facilitate this teleconference through Anthony Greenwater, Director of the Region 5 Tribal and International Affairs Office (TIAO).

Those invited to the Haskell Lake managers' teleconference include the following:

- Brigid Lowery, Acting Director, USEPA R5 Land and Chemicals Division (LCD)
- Michael Harris, Deputy Director, USEPA R5 LCD
- Judy Fassbender, WDNR Section Chief, Policy and Technical Resources
- John Robinson, WDNR Northern Region Team

The Council action of July 13, 2017 directed all project correspondence and coordination to your office. We would very much like to continue working with you and tribal staff to address contamination at the Site. Please consider joining the managers' teleconference or designate at least one manager with decision-making authority to represent your interests. Sherry Kamke (312-353-5794 or <a href="kamke.sherry@epa.gov">kamke.sherry@epa.gov</a>) will arrange details for USEPA. Please send her the names of LDF participants, workable meeting dates and times, comments on the draft agenda, and any other suggestions or requirements. We hope to talk with you very soon.

Sincerely,

Brigid Lowery

Acting Division Director Land and Chemicals Division

## Management Teleconference Haskell Lake Petroleum Contamination Site / Tower Standard

### Invitees:

1. Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa:

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- 2. US Environmental Protection Agency
  - Brigid Lowery—Acting Director, USEPA R5 Land and Chemicals Division
  - Michael Harris—Deputy Director, USEPA R5 Land and Chemicals Division
- 3. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
  - Judy Fassbender—Section Chief, Policy and Technical Resources
  - John Robinson—Northern Region Team

Facilitator: Anthony Greenwater, Director, USEPA R5 Tribal and International Affairs

### Proposed dates and times:

July 19, 2017

1-3 p.m.

July 20, 2017

9-10 a.m. or 1-2 p.m.

July 21, 2017

9-10 a.m. or 1-2 p.m.

### Proposed agenda:

- Introductions
- Project history and progress
- Current status
- PECFA guidelines and deadlines
- EPA resources
- Fieldwork plans for characterization and source control
- Coordinated path forward